

# CONTACTS 接觸

雜誌 *magazine*

September–October '96 \$35.00

V.4 no.6

UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
LIBRARY  
30 SEP 1996

# Letter

# To

# Hong Kong

HKC  
306.766  
C76

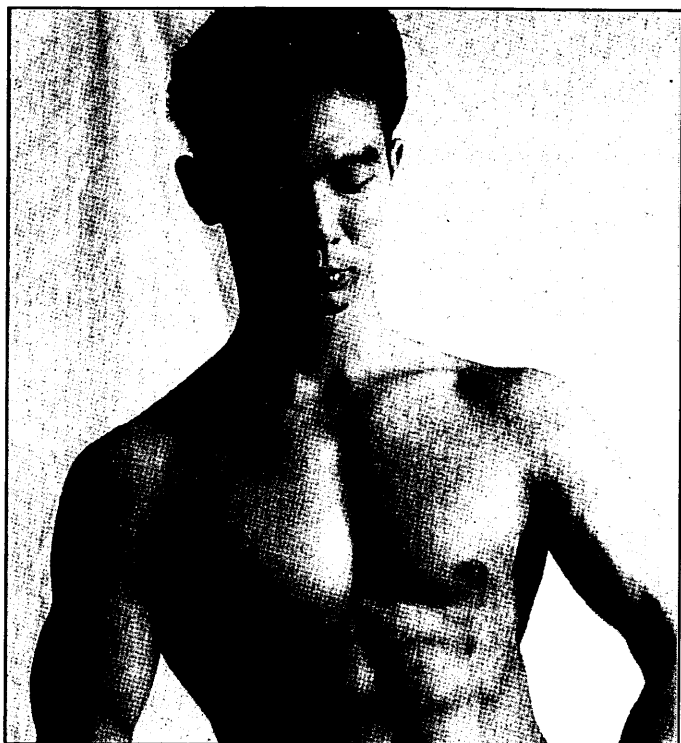
## 警告

## WARNING

本物品內容可能令人反感：不可將本物品派發、傳閱、出售、出租、交給或出借予年齡未滿 18 歲人士或將本物品向該等人士出示、播放或放映。

THIS ARTICLE CONTAINS MATERIAL WHICH MAY OFFEND AND MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED, CIRCULATED, SOLD, HIRED, GIVEN, LENT, SHOWN, PLAYED OR PROJECTED TO A PERSON UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS.





**This Years  
Best Seller**

**is  
Here**

**We always sell out  
very quickly  
so make sure you  
order today!**

**OG17**

*Positive images  
of  
Asian Men*

**B**y far the best we've ever seen

**\$280**

Send crossed cheque  
with name and address to



**Island Publishing Company Limited  
GPO Box 13427 Hong Kong**

**C**oming Out has, and unfortunately will probably always be, difficult for some and downright painful for many. To expose your innermost feelings and thoughts to others—even family members very close to you—is something that lots of people find hard at the best of times.

To tell colleagues and friends can be even harder and often takes great resolve and determination for there is real fear of losing respect and understanding. But the hardest person to Come Out to is, according to some reports, is yourself.

Once YOU have faced that YOU are Gay from birth and that whatever happens to YOU in your life YOU will always be Gay it becomes easier to tell others. You are unlikely to want to rush around telling everyone you come into daily contact with that you are Gay. If you do feel that particular urge coming over you perhaps you should draw breath and ask why?

As we have often lamented in this column it would be helpful and serve as an inspiration to others if we had some positive images to follow. Let's see the Gay canto-pop stars, political leaders, priests TV and radio stars Come Out. It wouldn't necessarily make it any easier for the individual to Come Out to their immediate circle. But it would show that we DO exist in all walks of life.

Don't though let's for one instant kid ourselves that they are going to Come Out and don't whatever YOU do hold your breath waiting....the result could be dangerous for your health! In the end, as the articles in this issue, point out it is up to the individual when and how she or he Comes Out.

That the responsibility for Coming Out is personal is something in which we fervently believe. What we have trouble understanding is the plethora of excuses that folk around this town make for not Coming Out.

Have a great and happy Coming Out Day.

*See also articles on pages 10 and 20*

Volume 4 No.6

Fax: (852)-2817-9120

E-mail Address: bandt@hk.super.net Home page: <http://www.hk.super.net/~bandt>

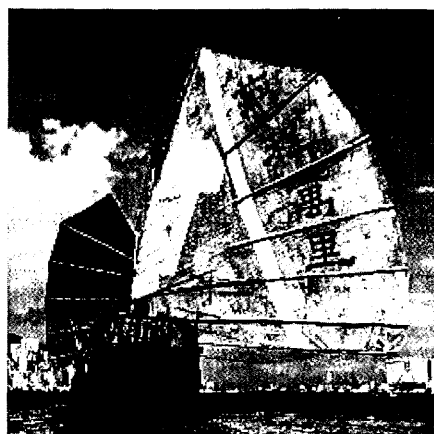
**CONTACTS 接觸**  
雜誌 magazine

September-October '96

Tel: (852)-2817-9447

## Regulars

6	Global News
8	Scene Around
14	Media Watch
17	Out On The Net
22	Update
26	Mademoiselle Fifi
28	Personals
29	Guide



### Front Cover Letter to Hong Kong Page 10



## Features

BOOKS REGISTRATION ORDINANCE  
CAP 142

Number: HK - 1996

### 4 Not All Sunshine Deaf education

### 12 Pakistan Women's Movement

### 13 As a Child Poem

### 16 Lambda Sign o' the times

### 17 Freeman Who they are

### 20 Coming Out Day 11th October

### 23 He can stay Couple win appeal

### 24 Murder Transvestite killed

### Page 18

### Japan's Pride



### Page 23

### To Wong Foo

**Editor:** Barrie Brandon **Design & Layout:** Thomas Choi **News & Features:** Danny Wong, Jason Leung **Advertising & Subscriptions:** Tony Ng **Contacts Magazine** printed by Island Publishing Company Ltd., Hong Kong GPO Box 13427, Hong Kong.

The mention or appearance of likeness of any persons or organisations or advertising in CONTACTS MAGAZINE is not to be taken as any indication of the sexual, social or political orientation of such persons or organisations. No responsibility can be assumed for any unsolicited materials and submissions is construed as permission to publish without further correspondence and the fee payable at our usual rates. Advertisers are advised that the copy is their sole responsibility under any relevant legislation. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the permission of the publishers.

Contacts Magazine September'96 3

# NOT ALL S

## Deaf Get Educated On HIV/AIDS

Connie Ramos-Vargas knows all too well that silence is not golden when it is created by fear and a lack of understanding. Her deaf, Gay son, Felix was 25 when he died of AIDS in 1990. He didn't know he was HIV positive until he was admitted into a hospital emergency room 10 months before his death.

"I know my son didn't understand what the doctors and nurses were doing," Ramos-Vargas says. "We had to fight to get an interpreter. I believe a lot of what he was learning then about AIDS was the first time it was ever really explained to him."

Last month Ramos-Vargas was among the two dozen people who attended safer-sex workshop for the deaf community, sponsored by the South Beach AIDS Project, Florida, USA. A Canadian video about safer sex used graphically powerful images to get its message across. For David Killam, acting director of the Deaf Services Bureau in Coral Gables, this kind of out-reach could not come a minute too soon.

"All the deaf actors in that video; they're now dead from AIDS." Says Killam, whose partner Jose is deaf and has full blown AIDS. "That's just a simple illustration of how much a problem this. There is so little education being done. I go to schools today and deaf kids, they still think AIDS is some sort of hearing persons disease."

There are several parts to the program. There are no statistics

on how many Dade residents are HIV positive. For many deaf people, written English is a second language and the average reading level among the deaf is between a third and fifth grade level. As such, most safer-sex education efforts fail to serve the deaf community. According to a survey by DEAF LIFE Magazine, 98% of their readers responded that they knew little or nothing about basic facts of HIV and AIDS.

As happened with Ramos-Vargas' son, Killam often ends up fighting with hospitals and social-service agencies to get Jose an interpreter.

"Being deaf is like being black in the 60s," Killam says. "We're still being pushed to the back of the bus. We need more than just interpreters, we need case managers and health professionals

who are deaf themselves and understand deaf culture."

The battle over services is one Franklin Zavala-Velez of South Beach has taken up. The only hearing Impaired mem-

---

**There is so little education being done. I go to schools today and deaf kids, they still think AIDS is some sort of hearing persons disease."**

---

ber of the HIV/AIDS planning Council of Dade County, Zavala-Velez is quickly earning a reputation as someone who may not hear but speaks loudly. Along with Killam, he is exploring the possibility of suing local government bodies under the Ameri-





# SUNSHINE

by Eugene J. Patron

cans With Disabilities Act in an effort to get more services tailored to the deaf community

**“Being deaf is like being black in the 60s,” Killam says.**

“Our needs are falling on deaf ears,” Zaval-Velez says, himself a person living with AIDS. “We don’t have the access to the same kind of information - whether it be medical, nutritional, or various services - as does the hearing community. So we can’t make informed decisions about our own health care. There are no deaf services agencies in Dade County funded to provide case management for deaf people with AIDS. That means that deaf people are being forced to rely on AIDS service agencies who don’t have interpreters on staff and don’t have case workers who are qualified to address our needs.”

At least in the area of HIV prevention, some progress is being made. The South Beach AIDS Project is planning more safer-sex workshops for the deaf and Ramos-Vargas is reaching out to the families of deaf lesbians and Gays. She is con-

cerned that many Gay deaf people miss out on vital information about AIDS because they feel they have to hide in the closet. To address those fears, Ramos-Vargas has established the first chapter for the deaf of the national group, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, or PFLAG. The group meets in Fort Lauderdale.

cerned that many Gay deaf people miss out on vital information about AIDS be

“A lot of parents don’t want to even think about their children being Gay. But Gay deaf people have enough to deal with without worrying about losing the support of their families. Parents don’t realize how lucky they are to have them. You don’t stop loving your children because they’re deaf, so why would you stop loving them if they are also Gay?”

## **“EXPECTATIONS”**

### **GUILIN PACKAGE**

Dept: 27 September 1996 Price: HKD2,950.00 per person.

### **KAOHSIUNG PACKAGE**

Dept: 19 October 1996 Price: HKD2,480.00 per person.

### **SYDNEY “MARDI GRAS” PACKAGE**

Dept: 21 February 1997 Price: From HKD14,720.00 per person

Dept: 22 February 1997 Price: From HKD14,500.00 per person

### **AIR TICKET AND/OR ACCOMMODATION**

Enquires welcome, more packages coming soon.

Please call your expert consultant at “EXPECTATIONS”

**PERCY 2522-1923 or FAX 2537-7998**

Licence No: 350343



## Bulgaria

Police have crushed the Bulgarian Gay movement, a Bulgarian activist said in an Internet message. Angel Bliznachki, said: "The start of the police action for total liquidation of [the Gay organisation] Flamingo ... and its members was the brutal attack on the organisation's office on July 10, 1996. The police confiscated the files, the correspondence, the computer and other auxiliary technicals, advertising materials, merchandise, and sealed the centre after a rude and demonstrative arrest of the employees." Bliznachki said the raid followed "systematic repression's by the governmental structure and their satellites, [including] police spying, phone tapping, 'loss' of international and home correspondence, threats, regular raids in of Gay gathering places," he said.

## Canada

The federal government will pay medical and dental benefits — but not pensions — to same-sex partners of public servants, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation reported July 18. Such servants include Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers, members of the military, federal workers, and employees of federally regulated entities, such as airlines, trains, broadcasters and banks. The new policy resulted from a human-rights tribunal ruling that the government was discriminating based on sexual orientation.

## Eire

*The Gay and Lesbian Equality Network (GLEN)* have been informed by the Irish Suzy Byrne reports that the Irish Government will lobby the President of the European Union, who is Irish, for an anti-discrimination clause to be included in the IGC. The Irish Government will also support the inclusion of sexual orientation in the clause. The next IGC meeting is due to be held in early September and is to be chaired by Ireland. In reply to a letter from, Noel Dorr, the Irish IGC representative told GLEN "The Irish Presidency attaches particular importance to the IGC addressing the issue of fundamental rights and discrimination. As Presidency we will be submitting a paper covering these matters for consideration by the Conference in September which will identify discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation which might be covered by new anti-discrimination provisions in the treaty."

## USA

An Air Force major accused of having a Lesbian relationship with a civilian woman was found not guilty in a case that violated the Pentagon's "don't ask, don't tell" policy for homosexuals. A jury of five men and two women, all Air Force colonels, deliberated for seven hours before finding Maj. Debra L. Meeks not guilty of sodomy and conduct unbecoming of an officer. The military had offered her a plea bargain for which she could have pleaded guilty to an assault charge. Instead, she chose to fight, risking the loss of her pension and other benefits.

## UK

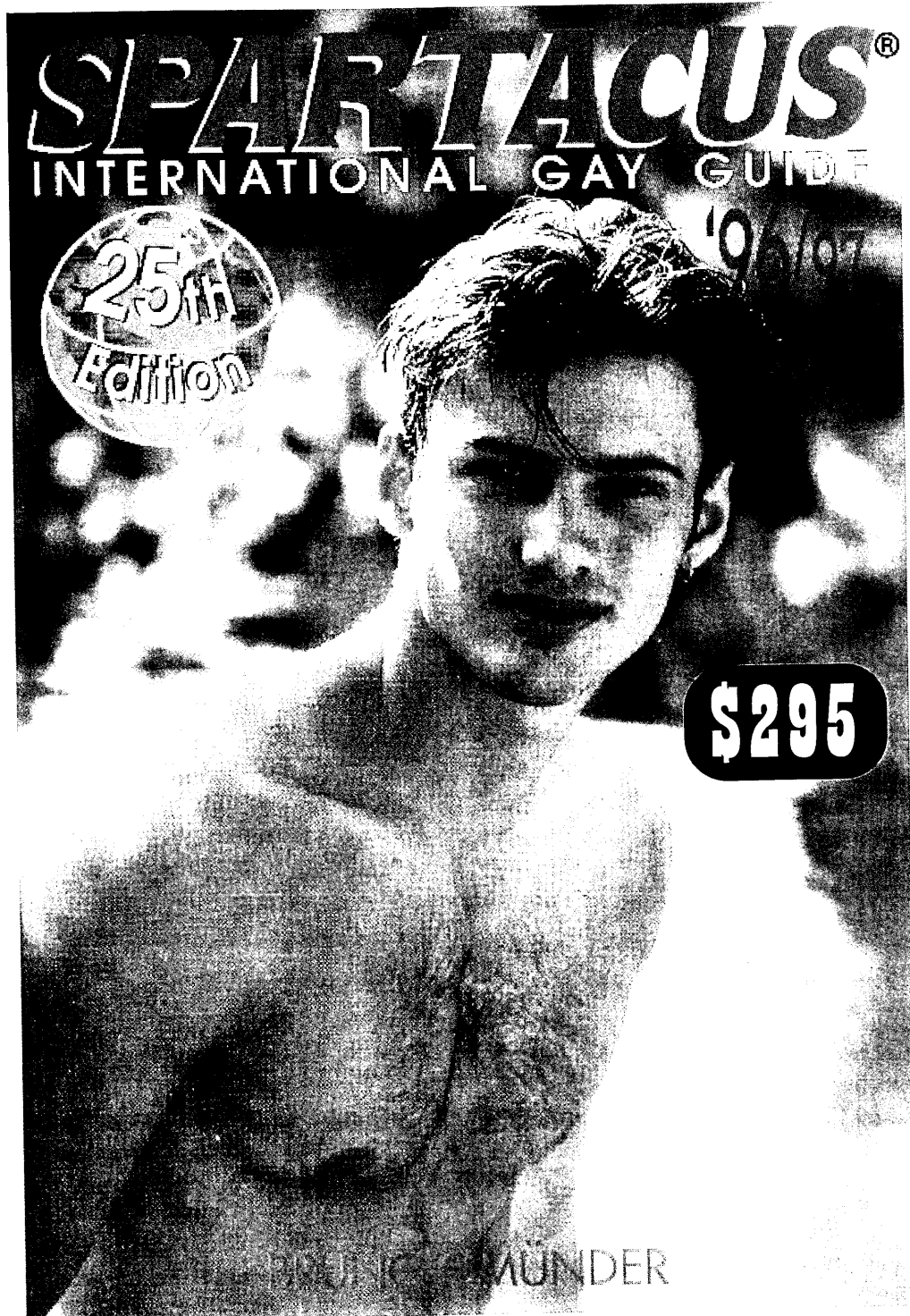
Sixty-five MPs have signed an early day motion, tabled by Lynne Jones Member of Parliament for Birmingham Selly Oak, calling on Romania to decriminalise homosexuality. Romania is the only remaining member state of the Council of Europe that retains a penal code that punishes private consensual adult Gay relationships with jail. The penal code states that, "sexual relations between persons of the same sex are punishable by 1 to 5 years imprisonment." Despite a commitment to decriminalise same sex relationships given by Romania on joining the Council of Europe in 1993, and law being found unconstitutional by Romania's highest court in December 1994, the parliament has yet to change the law.

## Cambodia

The government of Indonesia donated nearly 1.5 million condoms to Phnom Penh in an effort to curb the spread of the AIDS virus, which has already infected approximately 100,000 Cambodians. The under-funded Cambodian health authorities accepted the donation, but said the country would need 5 million condoms a year to curb the spread of HIV. The donation was prompted by an alarm over an Asian Development Bank study released, which showed 10 percent of Cambodia's prostitutes have HIV, an underestimate according to AIDS researchers in Phnom Penh.

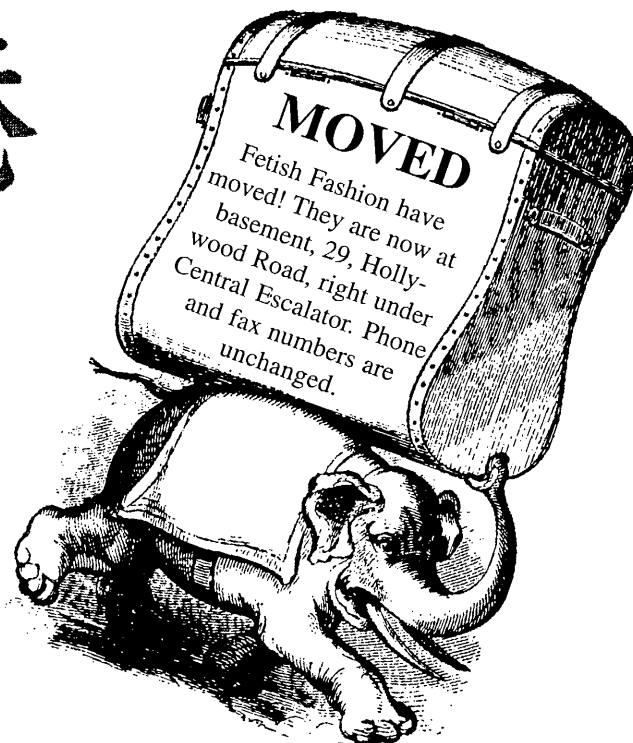


**The Internationally acclaimed Gay  
guide covers all major cities and  
countries world-wide.**



Send crossed cheque with name and address to  
**Island Publishing Company Limited**  
GPO Box 13427 Hong Kong

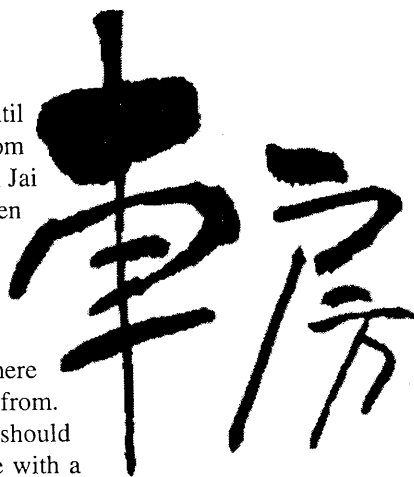
# Scene 香港 A round



The 10% Club are holding a seminar, led by Derick Tam, entitled 'Making personal adverts work for you' on the 22nd September from 4.00- 7.00 p.m. in the Lion Practice Room of Hong Kong Arts Centre. Entry costs just \$20.00



Club Garage is now open but, until they get a liqueur licence, only from 12 noon to 8.00 p.m. Owner Wah Jai said "I expect the club will be open on Friday and Saturday evenings once we can sell drinks." Garage is on two floors – ground and first – with a good space for dancing. There is a long open bar where drinks will eventually be served from. The unprepossessing decoration should make it an ideal venue for those with a narcissistic bent. Garage is a restaurant as well as bar so you can something to eat and drink at the same time. But before you rush to get there it would be as well to check if there is any special events happening. Wah Jai said "I want this to be a place that people can hire for private functions as well as being a Gay place." The address is 35 Peel Street, Central. Tel: 2542 1488



**GARAGE**

## FIVE -YEAR

Propaganda Despite numerous rumours that Propaganda is closing the managers were more than happy to share the news that they have just signed a new five-year lease. "We want everybody to know that we are here...and we are staying here" they said.

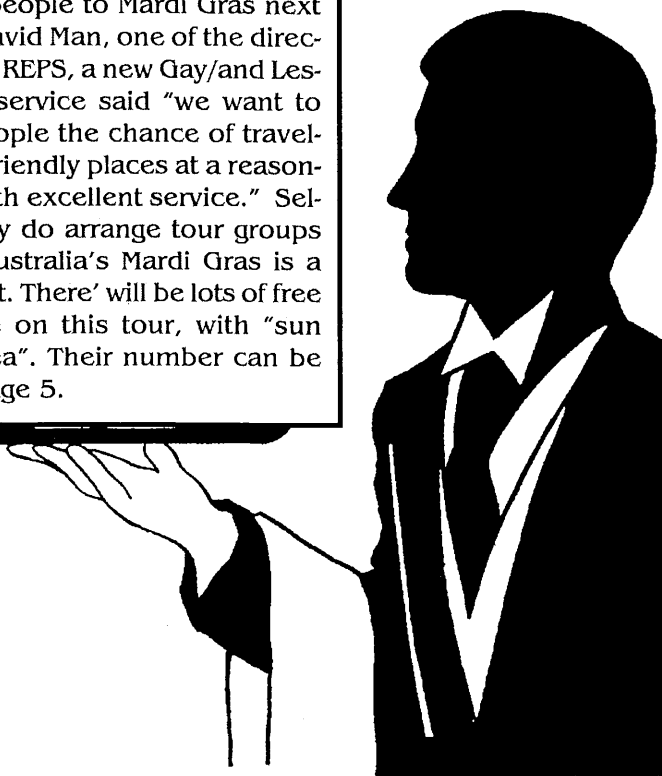
## CONTACTS 接觸 雜誌 magazine

Problem Solved. Seems there was some bug or other stopping access to our home-page...problem's now solved so you can get at us easier than ever before! Our address: <http://www.hk.super.net/~bandt> look forward to seeing you there.



# TRAVEL

A new travel company started last month and they are already offering to take 35 people to Mardi Gras next February. David Man, one of the directors, of ASIA REPS, a new Gay/and Lesbian travel service said "we want to give Gay people the chance of travelling to Gay friendly places at a reasonable cost with excellent service." Seldom do they do arrange tour groups but then, Australia's Mardi Gras is a special event. There' will be lots of free leisure time on this tour, with "sun sand and sea". Their number can be found on page 5.



As from the 1st September Island Publishing Co. Ltd are offering a registered postal service for any goods ordered....all you need do is indicate on the order form you want goods sent REGISTERED post and add \$30.00 for each item.

## Registered



**FREEMEN**

逍遙派

Freemen are running a free workshop 'Dealing with Depression' on the 30th September from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. at the Chinese YMCA, next to the Hong Kong Arts Centre in Wanchai. There will be games peer group support and sharing. The course will be in Cantonese AND English. On a lighter note there is an afternoon of volleyball, table tennis and badminton on the 22nd September at the indoor games hall of Hong Kong park, Cotton Tree Drive, Central from 4.00 - 6.00 p.m. with dinner at a local restaurant afterwards. There is also a change of phone numbers: English and Cantonese 90560693. Cantonese only 7112 8903 account 8862.

# QUOTES ON ONLES?

## What they said...

"[Hoffman-La] Roche was the first [drug] company to sell a protease-inhibitor [anti-HIV drug], and the price they chose (\$7,200 annually) set the standard for the market. The company demands this high price even though they admit that Invirase is poorly absorbed and under-dosed in its current form. Roche has refused repeated requests by activists to justify its price by allowing a confidential independent review of its actual research and manufacturing costs. Roche also displayed its contempt for seriously ill people living with AIDS by delaying its compassionate-release program for so long that Invirase was fully approved before the program itself was up and running. Consequently, many of those slated to receive free Invirase in this manner ended up being charged for it."

ACT UP/New York.

"I can't get too excited about the whole Gays in the Military thing. As a pacifist, I would hope to persuade people that we shouldn't have a military for gays to go into anyway. But, as a lesbian liberationist, I suppose I must defend the right of Gay people to be just as nasty as straights."

ScotsGay Editor John Hein.

"There is no such thing as lesbian divorce. There is only thermonuclear war. And then best friends."

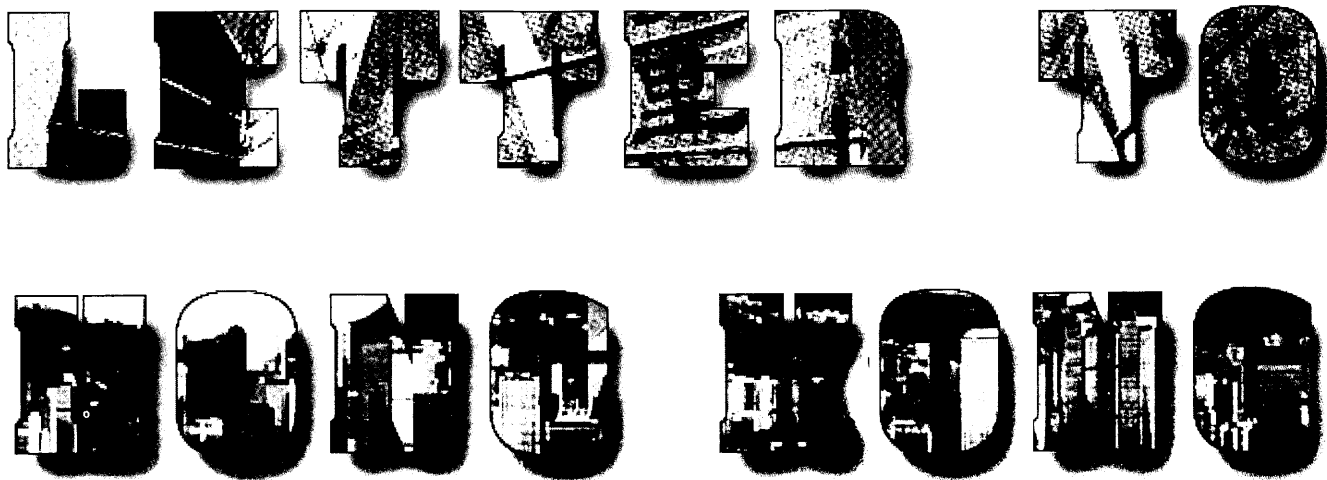
From Shelly Roberts' new book "Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Living."

"Confidence, intellect, independence, a sense of humor. ... I like feminine girls probably a lot more, but I like androgynous girls as well."

Singer k.d. lang when asked by London's The Pink Paper, "What does a woman have to have to be your lover?"

"I like to celebrate Coming Onto Day. That's when you choose a straight person and you just go for it. Like, you pick your bank teller, make your plan, then just come onto her!"

Comic Kate Clinton to Los Angeles' Frontiers.



## New Hope or an Old Closet?

by Richard Ammon

**S**ilhouetted against the glittering night cityscape, a young Asian man waits on the water front pier for the Star Ferry. When it arrives, he jostles among hundreds of passenger and boards the famous green-and-white boat with hardly a look at anyone's face. He seems deliberately to keep his head bowed as if to protect his own face from being seen. Occasionally however, he can't help shooting a glance around the ferry as we roll across the sparkling dark water. He catches my eye and looks away but looks back to check my gaze. It is the kind of visual catch that informs both parties that we are Gay.

By the time we arrive in Kowloon, we have exchanged a few cursory comments. His name is Ken and he works in a bank. I ask him about being Gay in Hong Kong which evokes a stifled frustration: "This is a terrible place to be Gay. There is no freedom here to do what you want." As we walk along the bustling harbourfront with its futuristic cultural centre looming behind us, it becomes evident that his lament emerges from his attraction to western men who too quickly arrive in HK, make passionate promises and leave for home and work abroad. "A boyfriend is too hard to find here. Western men come to visit and only want sex, then go away. Promise to write then nothing," he protests with a cynical look toward me.

To add to his frustration, Ken lives with relatives, as do most Gay people in HK.

He has no private place to share with a potential mate, although western visitors often can provide a temporary hotel room. (Some hotels, however, do not allow room guests.) Such circumstances are hardly conducive to romantic harmony or extended relationships. "So now I don't look. I don't know what will be my future," he concludes. We bid farewell and I watch him walk alone into the night, back to his small shared home covering up his secret longing.

He is not alone in wondering about the horizon of life in this Asian megalopolis. No other topic except money-presses more urgently on residents here than the fate of Hong Kong when the Territory reverts back to communist China's control next July first on the stroke of midnight. Although China has signed

an agreement with the British, who have controlled the city-state for the past 150 years, to maintain the governing structures and policies which now exist, few citizens feel secure. A fortunate minority of individuals as well as many foreign corporations have made contingency plans by sending family members or assets abroad to safe shores such as Canada or Australia. Most people, however, do not have access to second passports and tend to be indifferently fatalistic: "What can we do? This is our only home. We were Chinese before and now. I think it

will be okay," claimed one clothing-shop merchant with a shrug of the shoulder.

Back across the harbour on Hong Kong Island, the next evening, trendy young Gay and Gay-friendly Hong Kongers escape from futuristic worries by playing out a very different drama than Ken's lonely walk. Dancing to the beat of western and Canto-pop music mostly younger men and a few women fill the modest-sized Club 1997 on Lan Kwai Fong Street for the monthly tea dance. Spilling out onto the narrow street and the chic cafe next door, spirited patrons appear in designer jeans and dress shirts. Not a few

"This is a terrible place to be Gay. There is no freedom here to do what you want."

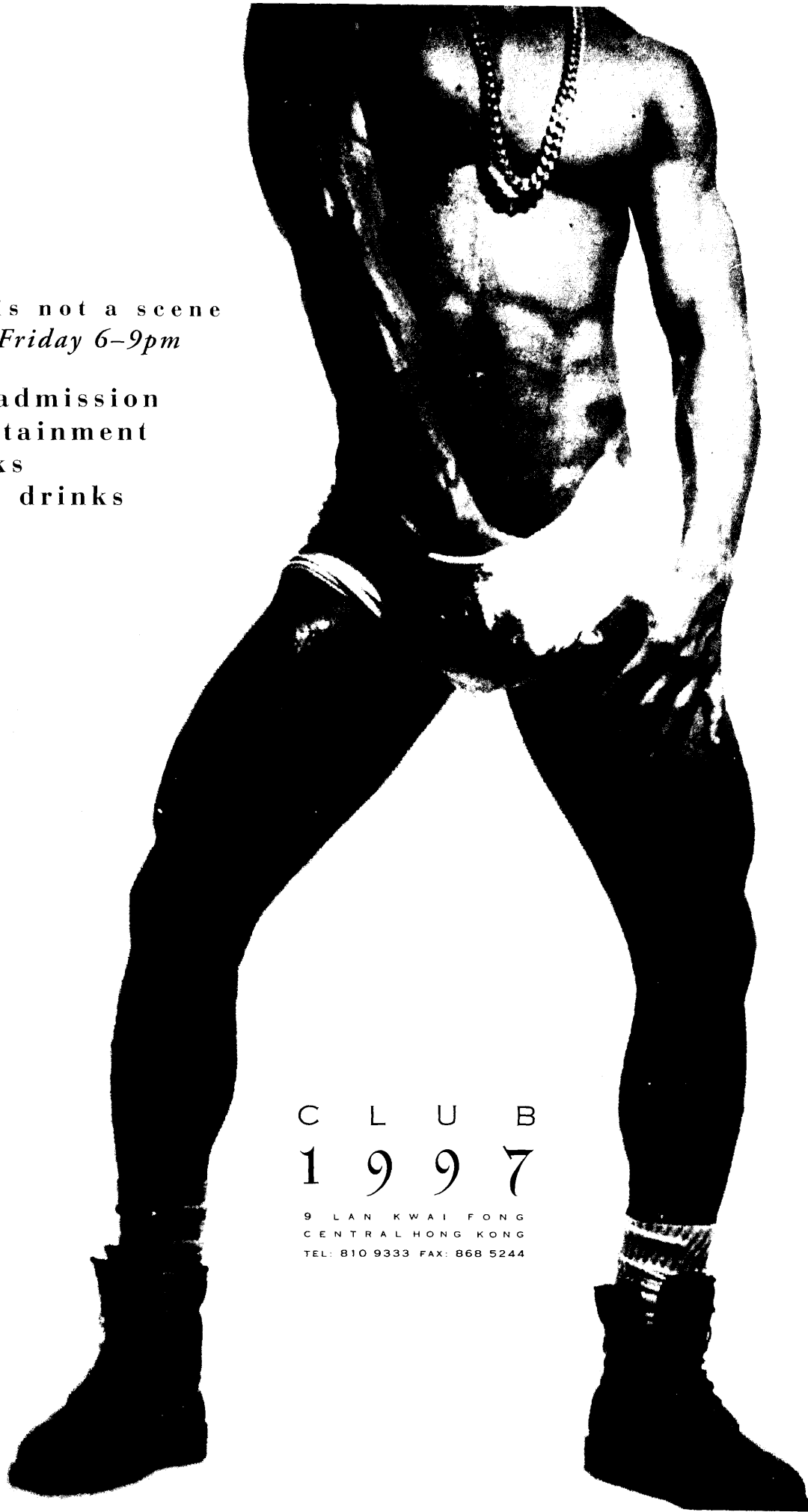
are sporting wire-rim glasses. If there is whisper of a Gay ghetto in HK, this is it. In addition to the bar and the cafe on

the ground floor, there is a well groomed restaurant on the second floor. A block away is Propaganda, a rocking Gay disco (cover charge US\$9) that is open for Gays six nights a week. A ten minute walk brings you to the cosy upholstered upscale cafe-bar Petticoat Lane where conversation can actually be heard while dining on saporous cuisine.

Add to these core venues another half dozen less smart bars (most with egregiously off-key karaoke) scattered around Central, Wan Chai and Kowloon, along

(Continued on page 25)





this is not a scene  
*every Friday 6-9pm*

free admission  
entertainment  
snacks  
2-4-1 drinks

C L U B  
1 9 9 7

9 LAN KWAI FONG  
CENTRAL HONG KONG  
TEL: 810 9333 FAX: 868 5244

# PAKISTAN

**D**espite the fact that Pakistan has a democratically elected woman prime minister, the rhetoric of integrating women in development, government's policies of cutting down on women and children's welfare and health programs is still affecting their political life.

*by Shree Mulay*

On the other hand, when political participation is viewed from a broader perspective as a people's movement for the transformation of society, participation of women in mass struggles, protest movements and grass roots organisations has been steadily growing.

They have been playing an active role in defence of their rights.

In Pakistan the women's movement is headed by a collective called the Women's Action Forum.

The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan is a member of this Forum.

As in India and Bangladesh, the intensifying communalisation in Pakistan, of politics has made the goals of gender equality, equal social and political order and social transformation recede into the background. Women are compelled to submerge their identity with the collective identity of their religious community.

Violence is an integral part of communal politics. Of all the various forms of violence that bedevil women's lives, communal violence is the hardest for them to negotiate. Fear, hate, intimidation and deception are the means used to silence women, to confine them and to restrict their entry into public life.

Today, more than ever, when many women's movements are experiencing a backlash and a resurgence of aggression and hostility from fundamentalist, right-wing forces, the strength of international solidarity needs to be further reinforced. Although the Cairo conference and the Social summit in Copenhagen marginalised



the issues that concern the women from third world countries, CERAS says there is a need to sensitise and inform the people of the first world.

Pakistan today is experiencing one of the worst sectarian and ethnic violence in the port city of Karachi. Hundreds of people have died and thousands have been injured. In the state of fear which prevails, women become the most vulnerable and easy targets of intimidation and violence.

In 1995 CERAS organised an international conference on Fundamentalism and Democratic Rights of Women: The Indian Context, held at Dawson College, Montreal, Canada. As well as two women guest speakers from India, keynote speakers at the conference were women activists from Bangladesh and the USA

The conference was held with the growing right wing Hindu fascist onslaught on the Muslim minorities in the background. Especially against women who are the worst affected.



# Children

learn  what  
they live:

If a child lives with criticism, she learns to condemn;

If a child lives with hostility, she learns to fight;

If a child lives with ridicule, she learns to be shy;

If a child lives with shame, she learns to feel guilty;

If a child lives with tolerance, she learns to be patient;

If a child lives with encouragement, she learns confidence;

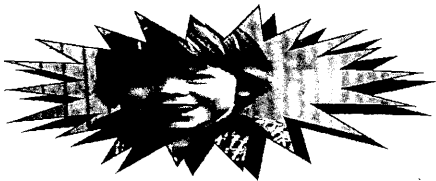
If a child lives with praise, she learns to appreciate;

If a child lives with fairness, she learns justice;

If a child lives with security, she learns to have faith;

If a child lives with approval, she learns to like herself;

If a child lives with acceptance and friendship,



She learns to love the world. ■

radio  
TV  
books  
internet  
magazines  
newspapers

# MEDIA WATCH

by *Barrie Brandon*



*G&L Magazine page 43*



*Post 97 advert*

Glancing through *G&L* the new magazine about and from Taiwan I noticed the top picture. Could it be they were unaware of Hong Kong's draconian censorship laws that are cloaked as the Obscene Articles Tribunal (OAT)? Or perhaps it wasn't obscene or indecent in Taiwan? Certainly it wouldn't be in Australia New Zealand, Europe or North America. Or come to that in most broad minded people's opinion.

Being of an inquisitive nature I got one of my Cantonese speaking friends to call the Television and Licensing Authority (TLVA) to find out how they had classed the picture from *G&L* as Class One and the picture from *Contacts Magazine* (picture on the left) as Class Two. The conversation between Mr Kam of TLVA and my friend went something like this:

Mr Kam: "We (TLVA) have looked at *G&L* and have decided that it is Class One."

My friend: "Who decided?"

Mr Kam: "We did at a team meeting."

My friend: "I thought all complaints had to go to the OAT?"

Mr. Kam: "Yes they do except where there is a ruling on something else like it. And that was the case with this magazine".

My friend: "I saw something else like it in another Gay magazine that had been classified as Class Two."

Mr Kam: "Well this magazine (*G&L*) only has a small circulation." Anyway this is the first comment we have had from the public. We have to be careful in case a competitor makes a complaint".

It's obvious that TLVA doesn't pass everything on to the OAT (as they insisted they did last year over the classification of both *New Man* and *Contacts Magazine*).

It's wonderful to know though that *Contacts Magazine* is so big it warrants being classified. We can rest assured that it's true because TLVA who (almost) never make mistakes clearly implied that in their reply.

\*\*\*\*\*

It was refreshing to see the article in the *South China Morning Post* by Alison Nadel on Lesbians (17th August). But why on earth did they have to caption it 'Being Gay, female and sad'?

Queer Sisters' Hong Kong's only registered Lesbian group have tried very hard to get away from the Gay label arguing that Gay is male oriented. Indeed it was one of the Queer Sisters that started the debate that led to Hong Kong Gay (the Internet group) to change its' name to Hong Kong Queer.

What's to be sad about being Gay? Lots of Hong Kongers are gay and happy and proud with it!

To be truthful the article made depressing, demoralising reading, it didn't reflect any of the positive things I know about Lesbians or their friends. Instead of using the opportunity to raise moral and confidence in the Gay community Queer Sisters seemed to dwell over-long on the hardship of Coming Out.

They (Queer Sisters) seem to think, according to Helen Cheung of *Windows Magazine*, that the world owes them something. "What they want, it seems to me, she said, is guarantees that if they do Come Out everything will be the same. Everyone will accept them and all will be well."

The article quoted a strictly-closeted Lesbian named Jessica who 'feared', (nothing stronger than that) she may not have had her contract renewed because she is a Lesbian.

Coming Out is not an easy path to choose there are very many pitfalls and snares on the way. But if we choose to go down that path then we have to accept the roses as wells as the thorns.

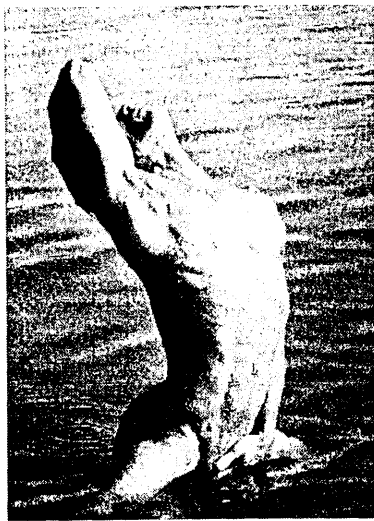
Some people will love us more for Coming Out, others less. Some may even stop speaking to us for a while or in extreme cases forever. Some people will think we're better for being Out, others worse.

But whatever others may think of us at the end of the day its what we think of ourselves that matters most. Many Gay people Hong Kong use the economic excuse that their families wouldn't understand or accept them. What they really mean I think is that their families might — and is some have thrown them out of their homes.

Where this happens it is truly tragic and the Gay person needs all the support we can give him or her. This is where the Gay group's role is of crucial importance. They must be seen to be positive, helpful and caring. Not depressed, pessimistic and uncaring money-raisers.

Chau Wa-shan a non-Gay Hong Kong lecturer who claims to be an authority on sexuality blamed many of the problems being faced by gays in Hong Kong on western ideals and activists. He said "same sex relationships were tolerated in Chinese culture for many years".

Sorry, Chau Wa-shan, tolerance isn't good enough, we want acceptance. And the only way we are going to get that is by doing it for ourselves. I'm sure no-one else is going to do it for us.



CLIFFORD BAKER



MARK BRICKELL



# Two

## Supero photo books

If you have some really good close friends  
you'll want to get them a copy too!

**\$140** Each

Both have Hot, Hot, Hot  
young men for you to  
feast your eyes on...



**\$95**

### A Sense of Loss

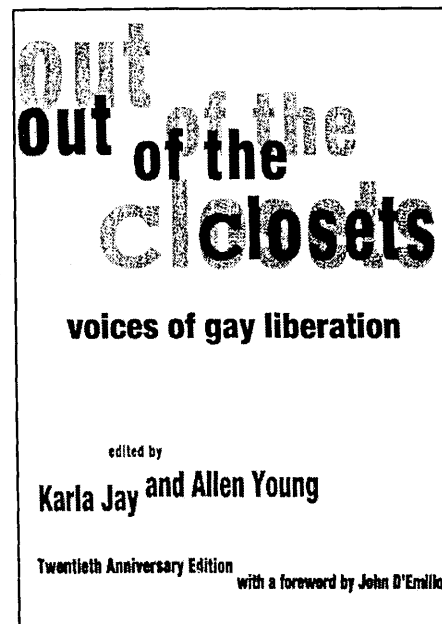
by Martin Forman

Collection of 15 short stories

### out of the closets

Voices of Gay Liberation

**Limited stock**



edited by

**Karla Jay and Allen Young**

Twentieth Anniversary Edition

with a foreword by John D'Emilio

**\$125**

Send crossed cheque made payable to:

**Island Publishing Company Limited**  
G.P.O.Box 13427 Hong Kong

# The Lambda Symbol

**T**he Lambda was designated the symbol of Gay liberation by the Gay Activists Alliance of New York in 1970. It was adopted as the international symbol of Gay liberation by the Gay Rights Congress in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1974. The symbol was chosen because it stands for synergy the concept that the whole is greater than its independent parts according to some sources.

But according to others, it is the letter L (for Liberation) in the Greek alphabet. The lowercase Greek letter, lambda, also has several meanings. First, it represents scales, and thus balance. The ancient Greeks considered balance to be the constant adjustment necessary to keep opposing forces from overcoming each other. The hook at the bottom of the right leg of the lambda represents the action required

to reach and maintain balance. To the Spartans, the lambda meant unity. They felt that society should never infringe on anyone's individuality and freedom.

The Romans later adopted the letter to represent 'the light of knowledge shed into the darkness of ignorance'. Finally, in physics the symbol designates an energy exchange. Thus the lambda, with all its meanings, is an especially apt symbol for the Gay liberation movement, which energetically seeks a balance in society and which strives through enlightenment to secure equal rights for homosexual people.

Although its original militant associations have softened, the symbol often appears on jewellery, as a sign that will go unrecognised by the uninitiated. The word has also been useful for organisations such as Lambda Legal Defence and Education Fund, as a way of expressing Lesbian and Gay in a minimum of syllables.

And more modernly there was a largely Gay regiment of the Greek army in World War Two who used it on their uniforms

for identification and solidarity.

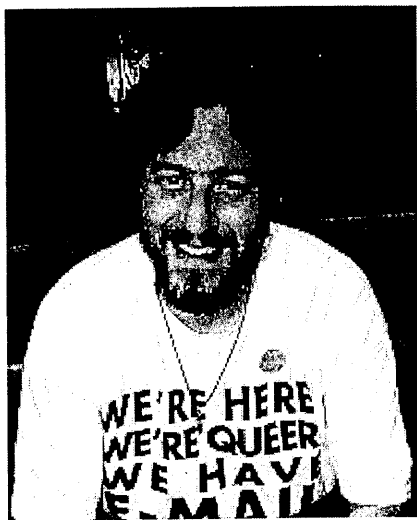
Then there is the interesting fact that when the lambda is turned upside down it becomes the Y chromosome: a physical act of sexual inversion.

Well, that's perhaps more than you ever wanted to know about Lambda, but it is interesting that the letter and homosexuality were linked in antiquity through its associations with the Spartans and Dorians who used homosexuality to create a stronger military fighting force. The letter was re-linked to homosexuality by modern Greek soldiers in World War Two and again by the activists after Stonewall, the important event in the Gay liberation movement.

## References:

- Gay Symbols Throughout the Ages*  
The Alyson Almanac.
- What Do the Terms Mean? Ecclesiastical.*  
The Maculate Muse, J. Henderson.
- More Man Than You'll Ever Be* Joseph P.  
Goodwin.





# Out On the Net

by Spode

Spode@sqzm14.ust.hk

**Let's take a look at Lesbian and Gay personal ads on the Internet. Personals are often underrated, and can serve as a useful and helpful way to meet new people, acquire a pen pal, or just to find a partner for sex.**

The best of the Gay personal sites is **WEBPERSONALS** (<http://www.webpersonals.com/>). It is VERY nicely designed, with excellent graphics, superb organisation, and lots of options, including photographs via FTP and even sound files. Categories exist for straights, gays, lesbians, friendship, alternative ("for people looking for "wilder" romance" including several from HK), pen pals, and college students.

I found almost 150 gay male listings from Hong Kong, but so far not a single lesbian. Each listing has a space built-in for sending replies. And unlike most on-line services, users can choose how many weeks they want their listing to appear. The system can also issue you with an ID/password combination, so you don't have to use your e-mail address. Visitors to the site can set preferences, and have the 'Love Hound' e-mail them those newly-placed ads which meet their criteria.

**GAYSOURCE** (<http://www.gaysource.com/meetingplace/>) has the best geographic organisation. Listings in Asia are a bit sparse, but I found a few for Hong Kong. So far there are no women listings for Asia.

On the minus side, GaySource still has some bugs in their coding, and their use

of frames is a bit overwhelming.

The **UTOPIA MESSAGE CENTER** (<http://www.utopia-asia.com/mess.htm>) handles gay personals very differently. Listings are very free-form, consisting of whatever the poster wants to say. There are no geographical divisions, but the listings are easy to scan through. Photographs can be included, although few listings actually have them. I found several personals from Hong Kong, including at least one in the separate women's listings.

**GAY UNIVERSE** (<http://www.gayuniverse.com/personals.html>) is not as well organised, but does have regional breakdowns. Like Utopia, listings are free-form, although a verified e-mail address is required. There is a good selection of 'Asians', including some from HK. However, there is some confusion, especially in women's listings, where "Asia" is used by the system for a geographical location, but is actually meant as an ethnic preference. Someone in Canada was listing themselves as 'Asia'. Most listings are actually from the US.

There are also dozens of commercial personals web sites. They cost money, and some of them are geared exclusively towards rent and escort services.

## So what exactly is



Freemen is a group started just this year and already proving to be great success for its well organised and well publicised events.

The group says that it has no political ambitions beyond that of securing equal rights for Gay people is exclusively for Gay men. Hardly something that is easy to understand in these days of increasing political correctness. But said organiser Russell Ip "it is important for Gay men to have their own space and activities without women being present."

The aim of Freeman is simple with a strength of purpose that isn't found, sadly to say, in some of the other Gay groups in Hong Kong. They intend, says Russell, "To promote friendship and mutual care by cultural, recreational and academic activities."

All members, says their handout, should be responsible for cultivating a positive attitude towards homosexuality, as well as contributing to a more Gay-friendly society.

"Our activities are not to be missed by anyone who to live his very special life to the full," is the challenge printed on the back of their application form for membership. And for a modest \$100 any Gay man can join.

The Men of all kind cruising event, when over 150 Gay men had a great fun-filled Sunday afternoon, had an impressive array of games, competitions and matching exercise. "It seemed, said one person, who attended as though the fun and laughter would never stop."

From the response at the Pavilion Restaurant, in Wan Chai, last month the success of Freeman can only be a matter of time.

# The Third Lesbian Parade



**A**t the third Lesbian and Gay Parade held in Tokyo on the 25th August, participants got a lot more than they had anticipated. The one hour parade was topped off with a rally that turned mildly violent, an unprecedented and unwelcome interruption to one of the big events for Japan's Lesbian community.

As in the last two years, the parade got off to a slow start, with many people joining in along the route. After complaints that last year's routing was in secluded back streets, this year's parade went right through the Harajuku fashion and shopping district, starting and ending in the same park.

However, before the parade even got it started, was evident that

there were only about half the number of people compared to last year. Some estimate this year's attendance to be as low as 1,250. Many groups, including OCCUR, (the group that successfully sued the Tokyo Municipal government to use a government-run youth hostel), were absent.

During the parade, and as the after-parade rally got underway, OLP and Project P groups, were handing out fliers protesting about the way the parade had been organised. And accusing Teishiro Minami, one of the main backers of the parade, of using heavy-handed tactics.

Their complaints were mainly that groups that wanted to take part in the planning of the parade were cajoled to voice the opinions of Mr. Minami in making out the declaration of homosexual rights to be handed to the Japanese government.

One person handing out fliers said that any group that voiced an opinion different from that of Minami was barred from the parade-planning committee, and thus, officially barred from the parade. The leaflet that Project P handed out said that they were specifically excluded on the grounds that they were trying to destroy the parade.

According to the leaflet, those opposing Minami wanted among other things, that those being barred be told exactly why they were being barred. And that peoples of all sexuality's, Gay, straight or bisexual, be respected, and that the Parade Planning Committee apologise to Project P for barring them.

This did not mean that Project P and the others could not join the march, as they did. However, as they were not officially participants, they could not speak at the rally.

As soon as the rally got underway, Minami quickly read out the declaration of homosexual rights that he wanted to submit to the government. There was a great applause when he asked for approval.

However, when the MC took over, some of those that had been handing out the fliers quickly took the microphone back, others knocked him down and pinned him to the floor of the stage. Minami came rushing onto the stage, screaming that those that who were being unruly were trying to destroy the parade. Others also tried to take the microphone out of Minami's hand. Another, Shin Hibino, a member of Project P, brought his own microphone and explained to the crowd exactly what they were doing. It took about ten minutes for other parade planners to break up the ruckus on the stage. During all of this, many in the audience applauded those that had taken to the stage to get their viewpoint across.



# rd Tokyo And Gay ade



*Photo & Story  
by Seiichi M.*



Afterwards, it was agreed that both sides, that anyone wanted to, would be allowed to speak. Minami spoke about how he was trying to help fight anti-gay sentiment by the government, specially concerning AIDS. He said little on the issues stated by those opposing him.

Project P the group that had taken the stage, gave their view. Basically they reiterated what they had said in their fliers. In addition, some of their members stated their dissatisfaction with the parade. For instance, that the parade was to take place from 10 a.m. in the morning, a time when there would be few onlookers. Also, their strong opposition to the new rules at this year's parade, no singing, no dancing, no loud music, and no distribution of fliers. As one woman member of the group said, "With all these restrictions, who are we appealing to?"

Many who spoke said that the parade was too dull and no fun. One participant, Hiroyoshi Takemura, said what many others felt, that "there are too many participants in drag. This is giving the impression that we are either faggy queers, or else we are too ashamed to come out to the general public. If that is the case, then

why bother having a parade? We would do better to simply march around 2-chome (the Tokyo Gay district)." Norman Goodman, a Nagoya resident from Australia, added that "We are supposed to be showing the hetties (heterosexuals) that we are amongst them and just like them, that we are a part of society and deserve to be treated equally. But too many of these fellows seem to think that this parade is some sort of advertising for the circus that has just come to town. And the route? It's just a quick romp around the block, so-to-speak." Mari Itoh, a Lesbian participant, however, disagreed. "It shouldn't matter if one is in drag or butch" she said. "What matters is that we all act as one community and show the world that tolerance is the best way."

One woman said that she was told by Isogai, a member of the parade committee, that "since you are only lesbians, you shouldn't be complaining." Many of those in the audience screamed with anger when they heard this. Mitsuko, one woman in the audience said, "we are supposed to be against discrimination, but when gays put us down, what are we supposed to believe?"

Another woman, who asked not to be identified, blamed Minami and his group.

"The whole trouble is that he (Minami) was the first in Japan to call for Gay liberation. He has been active for over twelve years now, so he sees himself as the father of Gay liberation in Japan. But he (Minami) doesn't realise that his strong policies are alienating many people." Another person added that "Perhaps it is time for Minami to step to the sidelines. We need younger people who are more democratic, and who understand the needs of the younger homosexual community. But after being in the limelight for so long, moving off centre stage is tough to do."



Minami told this reporter that the restrictions placed on the marchers, such as to dancing, singing and handing out leaflets, were not his idea but that of the police. It appears that in recent years the police have become more strict concerning public demonstrations. A spokesperson declined to comment on the charges against the Parade planning committee until a formal meeting with his staff is held in September.

The third Tokyo lesbigay parade was indeed something that will never be forgotten. However, what form the fourth parade next year will take, and exactly who will take charge of the planning is yet to be seen.

# COMING OUT DAY

↓

by Danny Chan

**S**ome of the many letters to the editor in the South China Morning Post recently said or implied that sexual orientation is a personal thing that should not be discussed. This leads to a very logical conclusion: these people should all support equal rights for all. Yes, sexual activities between adults should be a private matter, except for the fact that state and society have made it a condition upon which persons can be legally imprisoned, and denied employment and housing.

National Coming Out Day is a reminder to both Gays and to the public which seems often to forget that freedom, equal job opportunity and housing are three most basic needs which can be legally denied to homosexuals. If this was not the situation then, yes, discussion of sexual orientation would be moot. Until then, the discussion is not prudent, but prudent and necessary.

"If Gays would just keep quiet, things would be all right," seems to be a prevailing attitude. That sentiment is very similar to "Our Negroes are satisfied," espoused in America during the 1950s-60s; the often-unspoken attitude was actually "Our Negroes know their place." Today, some suggest that Gays just need to go on and quit trying to improve their situation. Translation: "Gays need to know their place." National Coming Out Day gives Gays and Lesbians who are no longer satisfied with their place as second-class citizens subject to legalised discrimination support system to ac-

OCTOBER

11

Friday

星期五

knowledge their sexual orientation to family and friends.

Yes, homosexuals can hide. They can pretend that they are straight, while black people cannot deny their skin colour. The very fact that homosexuals can be invisible is part of the problem. If people knew they were enacting laws or engaging in personal behaviour that hurt 1 in 10 (or even 1 in 5) of their family members and acquaintances, they might quickly end both the stigma and the discrimination. It is easy to even unintentionally

disparage Indians, Jews, Catholics or any other minority when you've never known any. Unfortunately, many people don't realise how many Gay and Lesbian persons are in our midst.

It appears that people to me who simply don't want to discuss sexual orientation are satisfied with the status quo. And, many people who don't want to discuss it are generally persons who in many other issues of personal freedom and equal rights today are "moderate." The moderates are desperately needed to balance the phobia that radical right-wingers have about acceptance of Gays and Lesbians.

National Coming Out Day is not only for countries like the USA or Canada or cities such as New York, London, Amsterdam or Rome, but also for large towns like Hong Kong.

The realities are that there are Gays in Hong Kong, whether most residents know it or admit it, and that the effects of discrimination in a place with a small town mentality are disproportionately greater than in a large city; there are fewer job openings, fewer housing opportunities, fewer potential friends if a Gay person loses their current job, their present apartment and friends.

It's sad that so many people are uncomfortable discussing sexual orientation.

But hundreds of thousands Gays and Lesbians remain more than uncomfortable as these issues are swept under the rug.



# Beautiful Cards



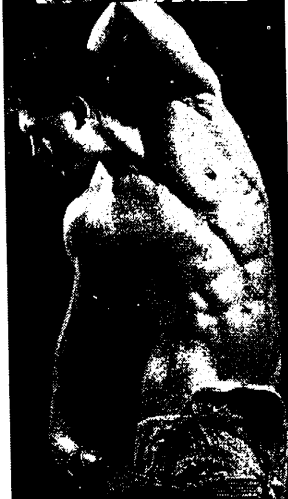
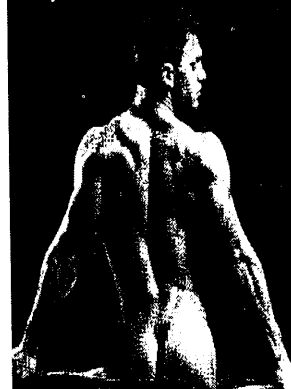
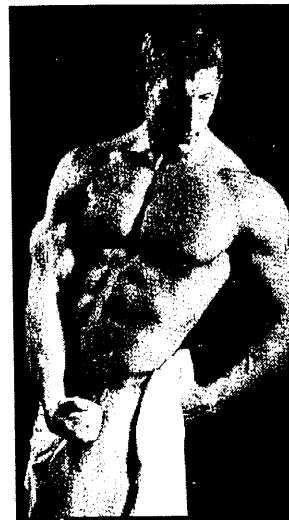
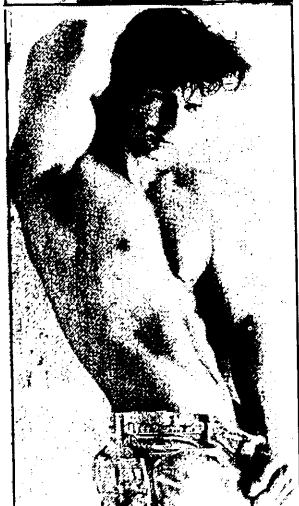
Whole set of  
9 cards

# Only \$160

(Subscribers Less 10%)

Send crossed cheque with name and address to:

Island Publishing Company Limited  
GPO Box 13427 Hong Kong



# Update... Australia

by Brother Sister

## Same Sex Registry

Australia's largest department store chain, Myer-Grace Brothers, last month changed their bridal registry system to recognise same-sex couples.

The new computer program, in place in 70 store across the country, will also accommodate women who want to keep their maiden name after marriage.

Myer-Grace Brothers public affairs manager, Suzanne Pigdon, said yesterday the company "made the change because...we didn't want to offend part of our customer base". She said more and more Gay and Lesbian couples are wanting "marriage", with all the traditional trappings.

"The feedback I've found is that the same-sex couples who've been using the service...actually do see themselves as getting married-they're making the commitment and they want to communicate that to their family and friends," she said.

"They could couch [their announcement] in terms of a 'special occasion' or whatever, but they actually want to use the bridal service. And this is why we've actually changed the system so that we can meet the needs of those customers."

## Bishop Slams Lifestyle

Melbourne's new Catholic archbishop slams homosexuals in a book to be released later this year.

Archbishop George Pell's new book, *Issues Of Faith And Morals*, will hit bookstores in October and covers many areas of sexuality that caused controversy in the church for some time.

Pell, who replaced Frank Little in July, describes the Gay and Lesbian lifestyle in his book as "a difficult life."

He also states that "they have every right to be respected and well treated" before further condemning Gays and Lesbians.

In the book, aimed at secondary school students, Pell writes, "The

lifestyle should not be encouraged."

He continues, "According to the Church's teachings, homosexual unions should not be given the same legal status as heterosexual marriages."

The bishop also claims men are naturally aggressive therefore they should be the protectors of women, that lust is a male affliction and that abortion should be opposed.

Groups within the Catholic Church are concerned that Pell is expressing opinions that are too conservative for the nineties.

## Refugee Accepted

A Gay Polish man, 31, living in Adelaide, became the first European to be given refugee status in Australia on the basis of his homosexuality.

In recent times, Gay men and Lesbians have been granted refugee status in Australia in the past three years, because they feared persecution in their own country.

The Polish man claimed he had been persecuted by police, discriminated against in the workplace, and that he feared oppression or "outing" by the Catholic Church.

A Refugee Review Tribunal spokesperson said 24 Gay men and Lesbians have applied for refugee status because they were a member of a social group that was persecuted.

Of these, 11 were granted refugee status (including six people from China and some from Iran) and 13 refused.

But this does not represent a flood of "pink" applications for sanctuary. Overall, the tribunal has handled 11,000 cases since it was set up in July 1993.

At the Polish man's hearing, he told the Refugee Review Tribunal that homosexuality was not illegal in Poland, but

the Catholic Church created a climate of oppression and intimidation against homosexuals. Priests sometimes publicly identified Gays or suspected Gays, he said.

He said police in Poland had taken him from his workplace, called him derogatory names and detained him for six hours. Another time he had been in a mall to arrange sex, when he was picked up by police, taken to a cell and punched and kicked and held for two days without charge. At another Gay meeting place, he was assaulted by several people, whom he believed were police.

He eventually changed jobs from a post office to a process worker, to have a lower public profile.

"The applicant stated that he felt hated as a homosexual in Poland and that beating up a Gay man was widely regarded as sport," the tribunal said. "He lived an isolated, repressed lifestyle and eventually decided that he would try to forge a new life away from Poland."

## Human rights plea

A submission was presented to the Sexuality Discrimination enquiry in New South Wales on August 7 by Human Rights Commissioner Chris Sidoti. He argued that there is a need to protect human rights on the basis of sexual orientation or transgender identity. Sidoti said, "There is a clear gap in federal human rights legislation. Gay men and Lesbians and people of transgender identity have no effective protection under federal law and receive very inconsistent treatment under State and Territory law. Human rights are too important to be left to the accident of where the person happens to live".



# To Wong Foo

**Thanks For Everything**  
**Julie Newmar**

**T**he sight of macho movie idols Snipes and Swayze prancing around in high heels and lipstick is worth the KPS rental price alone for this gaudy, and enjoyable comedy.

Although a poor imitation, it follows in the stiletto-prints of Terence Stamp (Priscilla Queen of The Desert). To Wong Foo stars Snipes as a professional drag queen and Swayze as a committed transvestite who take to the road for adventure.

Muscle-bound Snipes wiggles his way into a series of tight-fighting numbers as Noxeema Jackson, a drag queen who revels in her chosen way of life. Swayze meanwhile, plays it as an almost straight woman (if that isn't a contradiction in terms) as the supremely gentle and genteel, Vida Boheme.

The trio is completed by John Leguizamo (Super Mario Bros) as Chi-Chi, a cheap drag artist who dreams of being a glamorous queen. This eccentric comedy is certainly not as sharply scripted as the wonderful Priscilla, Queen of the desert, but the performances make this outrageous soap opera well worth catching.

# He Can Stay

## Same-sex couple win deportation appeal

**A** 38 year old Moroccan man who has lived with his British partner for over ten years has won his appeal against a decision by the Home Office to deport him.

The Home Office had refused to accept that a ten year gay relationship with a British citizen were grounds for allowing the man to stay in the United Kingdom and insisted that deportation was the only course of action.

However the Immigration Appeals Adjudicator concluded that: "I do find the that the appellant and his partner have had a stable homosexual relationship since the since shortly after they met in 1983. I am satisfied that they could not continue this relationship if the appellant were deported to Morocco. I am satisfied that there are compassionate grounds within the provisions of the Rules so that although deportation will normally be the proper course... in this case, having taken into account all the relevant factors, I consider that the appeal should be allowed."

The adjudicator also indicated that to deport the man could have been in breach of the European Convention on Human Rights. The Home Office have not appealed the decision.

The couple were unaware that they could apply to the Home Office based on their relationship until they heard of the Stonewall Immigration Group in September 1994.

Mark Watson, Chair of the Stonewall Immigration Group stated: "We are extremely pleased with the adjudicator's decision. But saddened that the Home Office tried to deport him in the first place. Deportation is rarely initiated against heterosexual's who

have had a two year relationship or more at time of enforcement action."

"However this makes the 16th case we have won. Happily we have yet to lose a case. I am optimistic about the fu-

**I am satisfied  
that they  
could not  
continue this  
relationship if  
the appellant  
were de-  
ported to  
Morocco.**

ture and believe our case is so compelling that it is now only a matter of time before the policy is changed in our favour."

# Transvestite Murdered by Police

by Alejandra Sarda

**M**ocha Celis was 34, a transvestite, a street sex worker and a member of OTTRA (Transvestites and Transsexuals Organization of the Argentinean Republic). She was a fighter, always tough with the policemen who vented their hate and power by arresting transvestites and women, and then abusing them.

On Sunday, August 18, some co-workers saw her getting into a white car, known to be one of those driven by the area policemen. She was not seen alive again.

She was reported as missing by her family as well as OTTRA. Somebody who in Mocha's friends' view wore an uniform, shot Mocha twice right in the penis that very same night, abandoning her in the street to bleed to death. After a neighbor's call, it was the area police - who knew her very well - who drove her to the hospital, registering her as "identity unknown." and it was the police who answered the repeated calls from Mocha's sister and from Dr. Angela Vanni (a lawyer who works for the transvestites) by saying that Mocha was not registered at the hospital nor arrested. Meanwhile, Mocha had died in hospital.

Finally, Nadia Echazu -OTTRA's chairperson- managed to find Mocha and recognized her body. Dr. Vanni and Alejandro Soria -MCC's priest- were followed home by plain clothes police, while completing legal procedures to obtain her body.

It is highly likely that Mocha's sister will sue in order to encourage the murder's investigation. Meanwhile, OTTRA, Gays for Civil Rights and ATA (Argentinean Association of Transvestites) are carrying out a world-wide press campaign, to make sure this crime will not be silenced.

## P A S S P O R T

### THAI SPECIAL ISSUE

**O**nly

**\$95** each  
Post Free

Send crossed cheque with  
name and address to:

Island Publishing Co. Ltd.,  
GPO Box 13427 Hong Kong



## ADVERTISE

IN

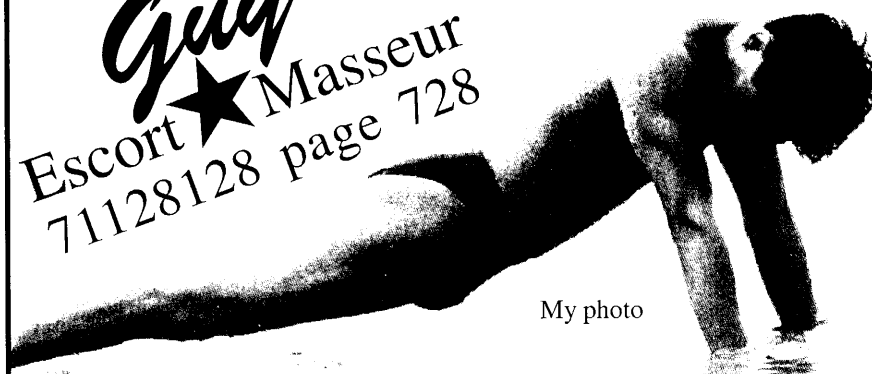
CONTACTS 接觸雜誌 MAGAZINE

OVER 2,000  
READERS EVERY MONTH

CALL TONY NG NOW

Tel: 2817-9447 or Fax: 2817-9120

*Guy*  
★  
Escort Masseur  
71128128 page 728



My photo

*Handsome, Charismatic Companion with a Sexy Swimmer's Body*



with about nine furtive saunas and Hong Kong's tangible Gay night-life is pretty well summed up.

Populating these trendy and tawdry places, are the first generation of Hong Kong's out community—Gay, lesbian and bi folks who are cautiously emerging out of their century-old Sino-British closet. Since homosexuality was decriminalised in 1991 (partly in anticipation of 1997), the Gay community has slowly coalesced into a small activist movement. For generations the love that dare not speak its name lived secretly under the heavy mantles of Victorian prudery and rigid Christian morality—both enforced by governmental hits squads who raided bars and made lists of 'Known homosexuals'. "We have grown up a lot in the past five years. The laws have changed and western liberation has been imported. We are active and actually talking live to the government here" claims Lee Ying, a thirtyish Hong Kong architect taking a break from the Sunday Tea dancing. "This would never have happened before. Everyone was afraid to dance freely or sign a public protest. Now look!" he exclaims with a sweeping gesture at the modest crowd spilling out onto the small street in front of Club 1997.

But what about the countdown to next year? What will China do with this foreign-yet-familiar precious piece of real estate? The range of moods swing from hopeless fear in some Gay residents to bear-market optimism among many corporate executives. "Imagine if someone told you Manhattan was going to be given to North Korea next year and no one in New York could do anything about it. That's my feeling", decried a smartly fashioned young woman after a long exhale from her cigarette at Petticoat Lane. "I think that's how a lot of Gay people feel. The future seems short, especially since we've only gotten started as a community." Then, as if to break the tension, she turned away to her friends exclaiming "But I'll think about that another day", with a backward wave of her hand.

A more cautiously optimistic opinion came from Nicole Garnaut, the owner of Club 1997 and Petticoat Lane whose involvement's in the Gay community are as a business investor and relationship partner. Although she is circumspect about next year, she believes there is a good margin of hope. - I don't think the Chinese want to destroy business here.

They want to make money too, and we know how to do it better than they do." Consequently, she has been careful to market her upscale venues to a more affluent and seemingly ambisexual crowd than most of the other more obvious (and tawdry) Gay bars. "I think by 1997 the necessary negotiations will be made, so I'm confident about the future here.

Besides, this is Hong Kong—we are used to things changing a lot here." Less visible but significantly present in the fledgling Gay movement here is Contacts Magazine, currently the only Gay publication in the Territory. Barrie Brandon (an expat Brit.) is the founder and editor who provides news, stories and opinions about Gay life in the Colony. The three-year old magazine also lists events and places as well as commercial and personal ads in Chinese and English.

As a leading activist, Brandon uses the monthly periodical to advocate for as much legal leverage as possible before the take-over. Since 1991 the British controlled government, in an unusually benevolent chase before the clock, has sought to firm up the Colony's future with updated laws including human rights protections. Homosexuality was decriminalised and now working under the anxiety of a few months' democracy left to the colony, Brandon and other rights advocates are eagerly pushing for passage of an anti-discrimination bill that would give protection to Gays in housing, employment and public service.

Yet even in the presence of the communist omen, the defiant yet wilting Legislative Council has balked in according Gay and lesbian citizens their much deserved legislative due. In July of this year, Hong Kong Gay activists staged their largest rally in an effort to move the legislation forward. "It will give people permission to be Gay," said Robin Adams before the march. Adding further comment, Lai Mang, founder of Queer Sisters, declared "...we will have more visibility and government recognition that there are such people and that they have rights." Brandon was impressed by the willing visibility of more than 200 people who marched from the Legislative Council building to Government house to present a petition and press their de-

mands for legal safeguards. "I have never seen so many Gay people assembled as I saw at the rally."

Unfortunately, the courage of the Gay and lesbian crowd to be visible and vocal was not matched by equal wisdom from the Governor. Mr Patten declined such protective legislation in favour of increased education about homosexuality. (Much good education has done against the Religious Right in America!) But activists and pro-Gay legislators plan to introduce another bill this October which includes sexual orientation and family status. The diva has not yet sung.

But what is the future of such activism? What strength will this legislation have. What permission will the bars, clubs and sauna receive? For isolated people like Ken, the Chinese captivity will make little difference. But for those who have tasted the hope of self-expression, the future is a dark cloud. A year ago Brandon was not optimistic: "If you've never had something you can't miss it. If you have had something and that thing is taken away, then you miss it." More recently, Brandon has felt some small confidence

**If protection is in place before the changeover, it is expected that the incoming government will respect it...at least for the time being."**

"The general opinion seems to be that there will be no immediate changes. If protection is in place before the changeover, it is expected that the incoming government will respect it...at least for the time being."

Such measured optimism is very appropriate. China has no firm foundation of human rights and does not intend to invent one to suit the adolescent strutting of Hong Kong's Gay movement. Although homosexuality is not a criminal act in China (partly because they deny it even exists), Gay activity is nevertheless punishable (imprisonment) under the same strictures as hooliganism and disruption of 'social order'. There is a penalty to pay for anyone being too deviant in the Middle Kingdom.

For generations Hong Kong has literally been a wealthy tail that has wagged the poor Chinese dog, especially in the past fifty years since its phoenix recovery from Japanese destruction in WWII. But, poor or not, now the dog is about to change that and the Gay community, despite a brave showing, can only hope the new landlord will temper its bark from the cruel bite that struck at Tien-neman Square.



# Mademoiselle Fifi du M1-sommet



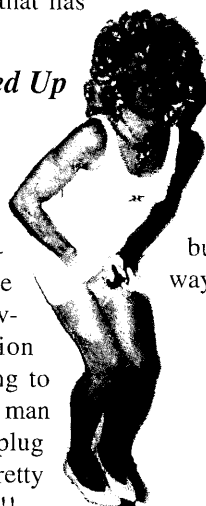
**Dear Fifi,**

This summer I was travelling overseas on holiday and ate something that didn't agree with me. Within the next few hours my stomach had turned into knots, and I was sitting on the toilet continuously. Sadly, I was about to turn down an invitation with a very handsome man I had met earlier in the day, when I remembered I had brought my butt plug with me on the trip. So I inserted it, and when out with this charming man. I am writing to tell you this story because I'm quite proud that through my own ingenuity and "lateral thinking," I solved a problem that has been plaguing man for eternity.

**Plugged Up**

**Dear BP,**

Glad to hear that I'm not the only one in this town to have a brain. I too have discovered the medicinal uses of butt plugs, but I've found them to be more useful solving the problem of constipation rather than diarrhoea. I'm dying to find out what happened when the man you went out with pulled the plug from your backside. Was it a pretty site? Please do write and tell us!!!



**Dear Fifi,**

The security men in my building have for years been using the hose from the building's fire extinguishing system to water down the driveway. Every morning they spray water onto the surface and it washes away all the dirt and grime.

I have been using my shower head for my daily douche, but I began to feel that it was lacking the power that I find so important as I get older. So one day, very early in the morning I went downstairs and without the security man's knowledge, I put the fire hose up my butt and turned it on full force. It was great! I felt invigorated, energised, refreshed, and ready to tackle the world again.

But then I got caught by the guard, and severely reprimanded. Now they keep the hose under lock and key. Isn't this some kind of discrimination?

**Douche-Bag,**

**Dear Fifi,**

I am 27 years old, and think I may be a Lesbian. I know that Lesbians often times use vegetables in their sexual activities, but I wonder if the proper way is to cook them first.

**May be a Lesbian**

**Dear Douche-Bag,**

Discrimination is when two people are treated differently for no legitimate reason.

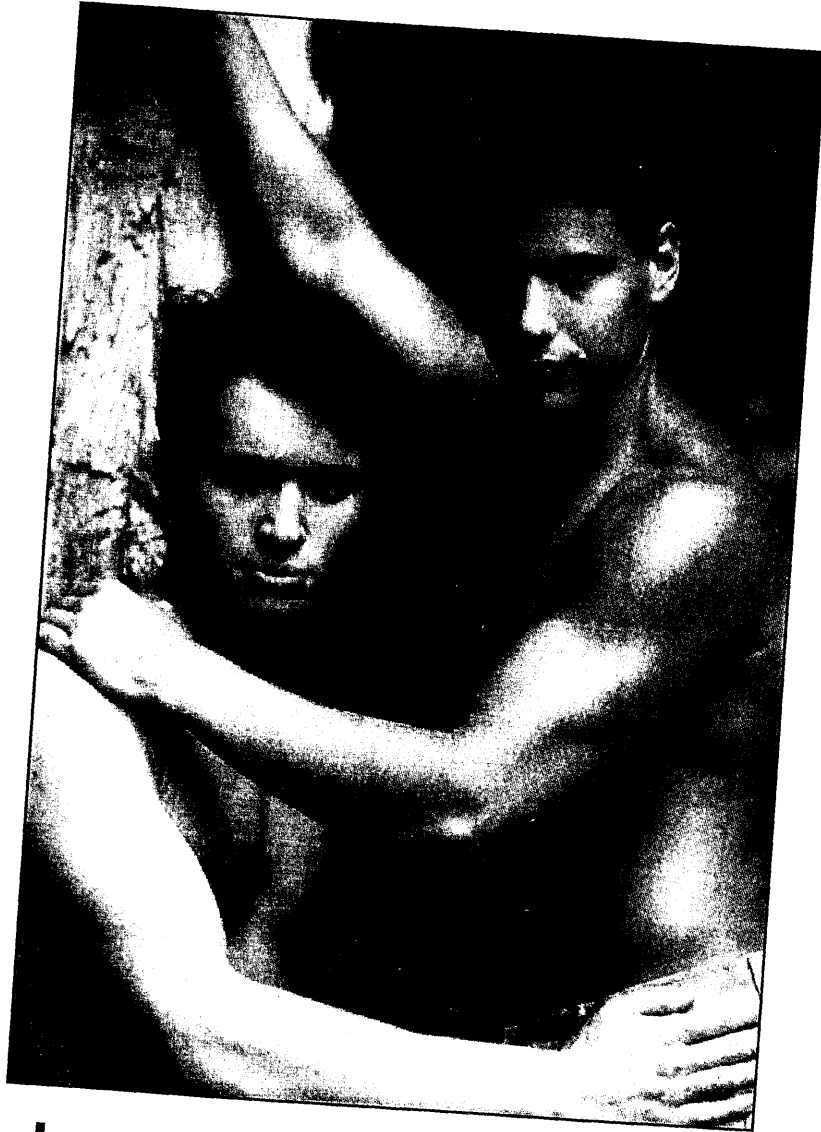
If your neighbour went down to the driveway early in the morning, and put the fire hose up her vagina, and the security guards let her do this, but not you, there is a very strong case that discrimination was taking place. If the security guards let her parade around the building wearing feathers and beads, but not you, this would be discrimination. If your boss at work let the secretaries at the office wear pants, but wouldn't let you wear the skirt of your choice, well then I think you'd have to talk to Dr. Fanny Cheung the head of the new Equal Opportunity Commission (earning \$250,000 a month) to see if this would also be considered discrimination. But I suggest you concentrate on more important issues such as whether Versace or Byblos will be your "favourite" designer this fall.

**Dear "May be a Lesbian"**

It depends on whether you want to eat them afterwards or not. And now that you've raised the question, I sure would like to know if this has anything to do with the fact that all those vegetable hawkers in the market are almost always old ladies. Is there something going on which we don't know about?

Until next time, keep the condoms coming, and if you have any more scintillating questions, you can reach Fifi at Box 555 Contacts Magazine.

# intimate friends



\$320 (Post Free)

Send crossed cheque with name and address to  
**Island Publishing Company Limited**  
GPO Box 13427 Hong Kong

# PERSONAL ADVERTS

Advertisers are requested to reply to all letters received and to return photos when asked. ALA means All Letters Answered. Advertisers are asked not to state this unless they mean it.

## How To Reply

\$3 stamps

\*Place 3 x \$1 stamps per reply  
\*(Free to overseas subscribers)

Personals #69

+ sealed reply

Contacts Magazine  
Island publishing Co. Ltd.,  
GPO Box 13427, Hong Kong

in outer envelope

Contacts Magazine will open the outer envelope, collect the 3 x \$1 stamps per reply, and forward the sealed replies to the advertiser.

## 怎樣回覆徵友信箱

請依照以下的步驟來回覆徵友信箱，既簡又快捷；而我們亦會盡快將你的信交到他們手上，所有信箱服務期為三個月，由刊登開始。

步驟（一）：首先將你每一封信放在每一個獨立的白色信封內，然後在每一個信封的右上角寫上你要回覆的信箱號碼，及將信封封口。

步驟（二）：每一封信我們收取三個一元的郵票服務費。假若多過一封信，便要給郵票，如此類推，但郵票並不一定要貼在信封上，只要將它放入寄給 Contacts Magazine 的信封內便可，然後將你的姓名及地址寫在一張紙上。

步驟（三）：將你的信、郵票及寫了姓名及地址的字條一起放入一個信封內，然後寄 Contacts Magazine G.P.O. Box 13427 Hong Kong.

Adverts for inclusion in the next issue should reach us by 3rd October. Fill in the form on page 30 or fax us on 2817-9120.

## Men

Camille Pagla, Anne Rice, Nina Simone, Cokie Robersts, Eleanor (both of them)...I have enough women in my life; now I want a man. I'm 31, westerner, ok fit, no rabies, good teeth, etc. What else? I'm out. I'd like to meet you, for camaraderie, perhaps more. Communication is important so the closer to my age and background, the better. Box 222

## THE BEST PERSONAL ADVERTS ARE IN CONTACTS MAGAZINE

EuroAsian, 36, muscular, raised in USA, butch. Seeks caucasian, 35 to 55 for fun or long term relationship. Box 220

C'mon let's party! We have the place and toys. Gay couple seeks singles for fun times. Serious replies only please. ALA with photos. guaranteed confidential. Box 225

Sincere Chinese 29 straight acting. Seek honest guys for friendship/relationship. Cheung San Wan Post Office PO Box 80438, Kowloon

## FIND THE LOVE(S) OF YOUR LIFE-USE CONTACTS PERSONAL ADVERTS

Stylish & energetic professional. Mid 30s. Enjoys wine and basketball. Looking for slim, fit & youthful man in his early/mid 20s. Romance, fun or more. Photo please. Box 218

Chinese 28, quiet, sincere, slim. Looking for mature man who can give me love, respect any age over 35 (any nationality). Please call me on 2304-6477.

Cute Chinese, 24. Enjoys zuni, music, reading. Seeks fat honest and mature Chinese aged 28 to 35. Please write with photo. Box 219.

Fat or thin, short or tall, young or old if you are fun to be with then I want to hear from you. Expat own place wants friends to join him. Non-smokers welcome. Must like fun-times. Your phone number gets mine. Box 224

European, 30, good looking, tall, muscular, 6'2", into fisting, gives and receives. Seeks person similar interest. No strings, fun only. Box 217

## PEN PALS

Chinese 30, Singaporean, muscular man. 1.80m (tall) & 79kg (weight). Hobbies: travel, body building, singing. Seeks Asian men from 24 to 36 years old for friendship and relationship. Please write with photo Box 223



## Subscribe

to

## Contacts Magazine

the best way to make sure of your copy!

## Save

up to 20% a year and get a free personal advert.



## **BARS & DISCOS**

### **CE TOP**

9/F  
37-43 Cochrane  
Street, Central,  
Hong Kong.  
Tel: 2544-3581  
8:00pm-3:00am



### **CLUB'97**

9 Lan Kwai Fong,  
Central, Hong Kong  
Tel: 2810-9333,  
Friday 6:00pm-10:00pm

### **GARAGE**

G/F., 35 Peel Street,  
Central, Hong Kong  
Tel: 2542-1488  
Mon.-Sat.: 12:00pm-8:00pm

### **PETTICOAT LANE**

2, Tun Wo Lane,  
Central, Hong Kong.  
Tel: 2973-0642  
Mon.-Sat.: 12:00pm-12:00 midnight

### **PROPAGANDA**

1/F., 30-32 Wyndham St.,  
Central, Hong Kong  
Tel: 2868-1316  
Mon.-Sat.: 9:00pm-3:30am  
Happy Hours 9:00pm-10:30pm

### **WALLY MATT LOUNGE**

9 Cornwall Avenue,  
Tsim Sha Tsui,  
Kowloon  
Tel: 2367-6874  
6:00pm-4:am

### **ZIP**

G/F., 2 Glenealy,  
Central, Hong Kong  
6:00pm-2:00am  
Tel: 2523-3595



## **GUEST HOUSE**

### **BABYLON VILLA**

29, Lower Cheung Sha,  
Lantau Island,  
Hong Kong  
Tel: 2980-2872

## **KARAOKE**



### **BABYLON**

5/F., Kingpower Commercial Bldg.,  
409-413 Jaffe Road,  
Wanchai, Hong Kong.  
Tel: 2573-3978. 8:00pm-2:00am

## **CIRCUS CLUB**

11/F., Ying Kong Mansion,  
2-6 Yee Wo Street, Causeway Bay,  
Hong Kong.  
Tel: 2576-5680. 8:00pm-2:00am

## **WHY NOT**

12/F., Kyoto Plaza,  
491-499 Lochart Road.,  
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong  
Tel: 2572-7808. 8:00pm-2:00am

## **H2O**

2/F., Hop Yee Bldg.,  
474-476 Lockhard Road.,  
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong  
Tel: 2834-6451. 8:00pm-4:00am

## **MEMBERS CONNECTION**

3/F., 5 Lan Fong Road,  
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong.  
Tel: 2890-7731. 8:00pm-3:00am

## **SAUNAS & FITNESS CENTRES**



### **AA**

1/F., 19 Lan Fong Road,  
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong.  
Tel: 2577-3705. 2:00pm-12:00 midnight

### **AE**

1/F., Kwong Ah Bldg.,  
114 Thomson Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong  
Tel: 2591-0500. 2:00pm-12:00 midnight

### **BA**

1/F., Flat D, Cheung Hong Mansion,  
25-33 Johnston Road,  
Wanchai, Hong Kong.  
Tel: 2527-7073. 2:00pm-12:00 midnight

### **Blue Blood**

3/F Perfect Commercial Bldg.,  
20, Austin Avenue,  
Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon  
Tel: 2302-0780 2:00pm-12:00 midnight

### **BOBSON FITNESS CLUB**

35-37 Hankow Road,  
3/F., Flat D, Mag Bldg.,  
Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon.  
Tel: 2376-2208 3:30pm-12:00 midnight

### **CENTRAL ESCALATOR**

2/F., Cheung Hing Comm. Bldg.,  
No.37-43 Cochrane Street,  
Central, Hong Kong.  
Tel: 2581-9951. 1:00pm-1:00am

### **GAME BOY'S**

2/F., 324 Lockhard Road,  
Wanchai, Hong Kong  
Tel: 2574-3215 2:00am-12:00 midnight

## **JJ PARK**

3/F., Flat A, Fairview Mansion,  
51 Paterson Street,  
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong  
Tel: 2882-2399. 3:00pm-1:00am

## **JONATHAN'S FITNESS CLUB**

42 Carnarvon Road,  
Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon  
Tel: 2369-8174. 4:30pm-12:00 midnight

## **KK**

16/F., Block A, Fuk Lok Bldg.,  
19-21 Jordan Road, Kowloon.  
Tel: 2388-6138. 2:00pm-1:00am

## **ROME CLUB**

2/F., Chiap Lee Bldg.,  
27 Ashley Road,  
Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon.  
Tel: 2376-0602. 3:00pm-12:00 midnight

## **YUK TAK CHEE**

G/F., 123 Prince Edward Road, Kowloon.  
Tel: 2393-9505  
12:00pm-12:00 midnight



## **SHOPPING**

### **FETISH FASHION**

Basement, 29 Hollywood Road,  
Central, Hong Kong.  
Tel: 2544-1155 Fax: 2524-9216  
Tuesday-Sunday 11:am-7:00pm

### **GEAR**

Ground Floor, 4 Anton Street,  
Wanchai, Hong Kong.  
Tel: 2527-1557

## **COUNSELLING**



### **LINDA ROSENBLUTH**

16A 52-54 Mount David Road,  
Pokfulam, Hong Kong.  
Tel: 2872-0441  
(By Appointment Only)

### **PEER COUNSELLING**

The only professional counselling service for Gay men in Hong Kong.  
Tel: 2817-7129 (By Appointment Only)

### **ST. JOHNS**

St. Johns Cathedral, Garden Road,  
Central, Hong Kong.  
Tel: 2525-7207; 2525-7208

### **THE SAMARITANS**

Tel: 2896-0000

## AIDS INFORMATION



### AIDS CONCERN

General Enquiries: 2898-4411  
Helpline: 2898-4422

### AIDS FOUNDATION

General Enquiries: 2560-8528  
Helpline: 2513-0513  
Infoline: 170-222-170

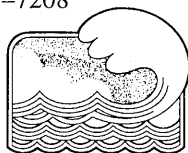
### AIDS HOTLINE

Tel: 2780-2211

### HIV INFORMATION & DROP-IN CENTRE

St. Johns' Cathedral,  
Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong.  
Tel: 2525-7207, 2525-7208

## BEACHES



### MIDDLE BAY BEACH

South Bay Road, Hong Kong

### SOUTH BAY BEACH

South Bay Road, Hong Kong

## SOCIAL GROUPS



### FREEMEN

GPO Box 2443, Hong Kong  
Pager 7112-8903 a/c 8862 (Cantonese)  
Tel: 9056-0693 (English)  
(Social group organises many activities.)

### BLESSED MINORITY

Li Hall, St Johns' Cathedral  
Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong  
Gay Christian group  
Meets 1st Sunday of the month 4-6pm.  
Cantonese speaking.

### GAY COALITION

c/o Contacts Magazine  
GPO Box 13427, Hong Kong.  
Political activist group

### HORIZONS

G.P.O.Box 6837, Hong Kong.  
Tel: 2359-3195

### ISVARA

Gay Buddhist Group  
P.O.Box 74342,  
Kowloon Central Post Office,  
Kowloon  
Tel: 2782-0649 Fax:2374-5948

## QUEER SISTERS

2nd Sunday CE TOP 3:00pm-6:00pm  
Pager 7112-8445 call 1613  
Hotline 2314-4348

### SATSANGA

PO Box 92128,  
Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon.  
Tel: 2314-1921  
Forums, Workshops and social activities.  
(Mainly Chinese speaking)

### THE 10% CLUB

P.O.Box 72207,  
Central Post Office Kowloon.  
Aims to raise social and political aware-  
ness. Some political lobbying (Mainly  
Chinese speaking)  
Tel: 2314-8726

## CONTACTS 接觸 雜誌 magazine

Hong Kong's only Lesbian and Gay magazine.  
Produced by

Island Publishing Company Limited.

GPO Box 13427, Hong Kong  
Fax: (852)-2817-9120 Tel: (852)-2817-9447

## PRICES AND ORDER FORM

- ☐ Men's Personal ☐ Women's Personal  
☐ Mixed Personal ☐ Flat Share  
☐ Pen Pals ☐ Goods Wanted  
& For Sale

Avoid delay, check details carefully.  
Please tick ✓ your selected category.  
All prices in Hong Kong dollars.

First 15 Words	\$50.00
Box number \$30.00	\$.....
Extra Words \$2/word	\$.....
Display Box \$40.00	\$.....
Your photo printed \$30.00	\$.....
<b>Sub Total</b>	\$.....
Number of insertions.....	
Repeat adverts 50% discount in the next issue	\$.....
<b>Total for personal adverts</b>	\$.....
<b>Subscription</b>	
6 Months \$180.00	\$.....
12 Months \$300.00	\$.....
<b>Grand Total</b>	\$.....

Please Note, the Editor reserves the right to decline to publish any advert without giving reasons, and a full refund will be given. Any advert that is not published due to space restrictions will be published in the following issue of the publication.

**Overseas advertising and subscription rates on request.**

Please insert the following advert in the next.....issue(s) of Contacts Magazine  
**PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS (1 WORD PER BOX)**


Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
I am over 21, signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
I enclose a crossed cheque for \_\_\_\_\$ Made payable to Island Publishing Co. Ltd.

**Free  
Personal  
Adverts  
For All  
New  
Subscribers  
(Includes  
Box Number  
& Up to 15  
Words)**

## ORDER FORM

Please use capital letters

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I am over 21. Signed \_\_\_\_\_

	Name	Price	Qty	Total Postage	Sub. Total
(1)					
(2)					
<b>Total:</b>					

**Want it sent registered? Add \$30.00 for each item**

Send crossed cheque made payable to:

Island Publishing Co. Ltd. G.P.O.BOX 13427 Hong Kong



# You don't need to be alone

## 你並不孤獨



Call a friend ... 找你的朋友 . . .

2513 0513 and share our care and support  
來分享我們的關注與支持，不用躊躇，即電25130513

我們會聆聽你的擔憂和解答你的疑問，而且所有在愛滋病熱線內傾談的內容絕對保密，包括閣下的身份。同樣，我們可以安排閣下做抗體測試，使閣下明白自己的HIV情況，如閣下是愛滋病帶菌／病患者更可參加我們的支持小組，使用我們的活動中心，還可收到Positive Link newsletter及PWA指南一書，我們會陪伴著你，去醫院或到住所探望你，假如閣下有需要申請援助金，我們可以為你申請。

你是絕對有權利享受美好人生，愛滋基金會永遠在你左右相陪，現在便致電我們的愛滋病熱線。

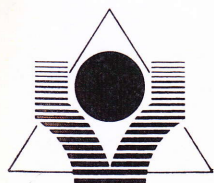
Your worries and questions are discreetly and anonymously answered on our AIDS Helpline.

In the same way, we can arrange an antibody test to determine your HIV status.

If you are living with HIV/AIDS you can join our support group and use our Day Centre as well as receive our *Positive Link* newsletter and *PWA Guide Book*. We also offer help and advice when and if you decide to apply for a PWA support grant.

AIDS Foundation is on your side. Let us be there for you whether at home or in hospital.

You have the right to lead a better life. Call today.

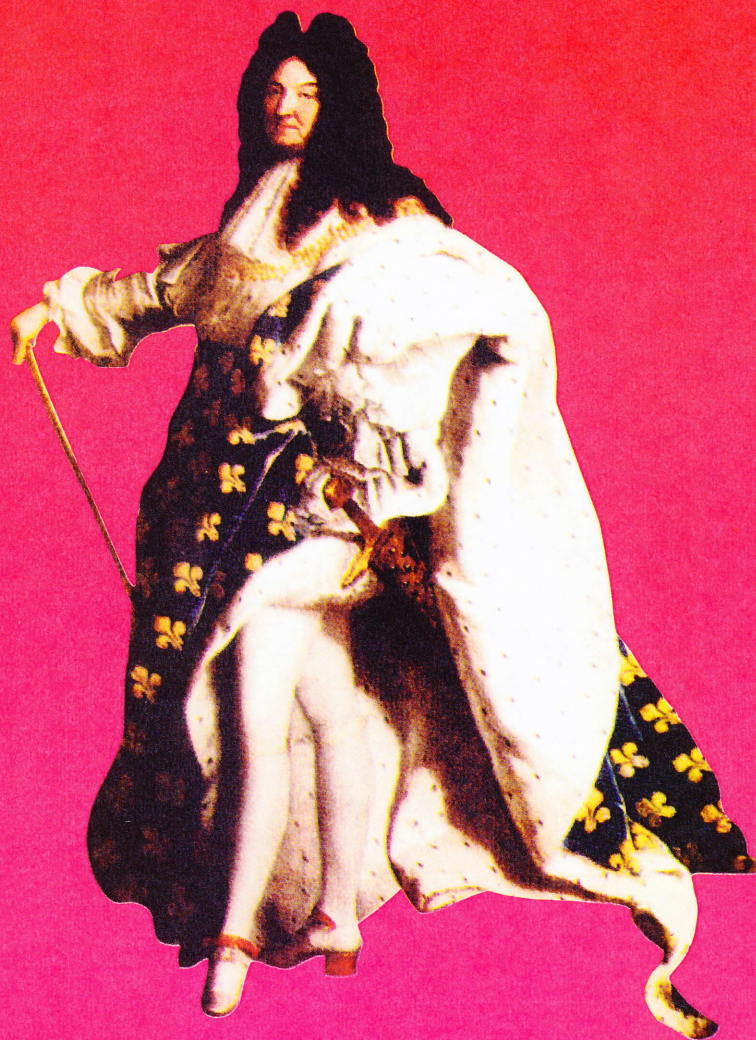


香港愛滋病基金會  
HONG KONG  
AIDS FOUNDATION



# Petticoat Lane

A BAROQUE-STYLE BAR  
FOR THE OPEN-MINDED.



*Food, Drinks, People, Style.*

*No. 2 Tin Wo Lane, Central, Hong Kong*

**29730642**

CONCEPTUALISED & MANAGED BY THE 97 GROUP.